GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4585
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000
NATIONAL BRAIN RESEARCH CENTRE
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up National Brain Research Centre in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up;

(d) the amount allocated by the Government for the purpose;

(e) the total cost proposed to be incurred on this project; and

(f) the extent to which this centre is likely to help in the treatment of the Epilepsy patients?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) : Yes Sir. The Department of Biotechnology under the Ministry of Science & Technology has set up a National Brain Research Centre (NBRC) as an autonomous body (under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860).

(b), (c), (d), (e) & (f) : The National Brain Research Centre would promote basic neuroscience research, networking, training of personnel and would have close collaboration with other research and academic institutions. Presently, it is functioning from the interim facility provided by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi. The Centre would come up near Manesar Village at Gurgaon in an area of about 40 acres. The Government has allocated Rs. 13.05 crores for three year i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002. The total expected cost to be incurred would be about Rs. 50 crores. The Centre would also do research related to diseases and disorders of the nervous system. Since epilepsy constitutes a major disorder of the nervous system in Indian population, basic research leading to new drug targets for treatment and management of patients is part of the scientific programme.